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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

SHIMO et al

Atty. Ref.: 1417-442

Serial No. 10/686,776

TC/A.U.: 1773

Filed: October 17, 2003

Examiner: Le

Allowed: 10/06/2004

Confirmation No.: 7734

For: BLACK IRON-BASED PARTICLES AND BLACK TONER
CONTAINING THE SAME

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January 7, 2005

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Attention is invited to the attached copy of a European Search Report mailed November 18, 2004 with respect to this disclosure and a copy of each document cited in it. A completed Form PTO 1449 is also attached.

Please place this submission in the file of this application as provided by 37 CFR §1.97(i).

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

1417-442

SERIAL NO.

10/686,776

APPLICANT

SHIMO et al

(Use several sheets if necessary)

FILING DATE

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October 17, 2003

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent pages, etc.)

Database WPI, Section Ch, Week 200429, Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; Class A89, AN 2004-307732; XP002304679 & JP 2003 345067 A (Dainippon Ink & Chem Inc) 3 December 2003.

*Examiner

Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to application.